gramme as Chlorine tablets developed by NEERI are most economical and most effective disinfectents for water and prevent various water borne diseases and cost very little to the Central Exchequer; and

(c) if the answers to parts (a) and (b) above are affirmative what remedial measures Government have taken or propose to take in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) to (c) It is estimated that 78% of the rural population is covered with either partially or fully protected water supply. The remaining population is likely to be covered during the 8th Five Year Plan period. Disinfection of drinking water is a part of the protected water supply scheme.

यूनानी दवाइयों की खरीद में अनियमितताएं

4664. **मौलाना औवैदुल्ला खान आज़मी :** क्या **स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार को 1993, 1994, 1995 और 1996 के वर्षों के लिए यूनानी दवाओं की खरीद में हुई अनियमितताओं के संबंध में शिकायतें प्राप्त हुई हैं ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उनका ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) ऐसी अनियमितताओं को रोकने के लिए सरकार द्वारा क्या-क्या उपाए किए गए हैं ;

(घ) यूनानी दवाइयों की गुणवत्ता में निरन्तर गिरावट होने के क्या कारण हैं; और

(ङ) सरकार पूरे मामले को जांच कराने के लिए कौन-कौन से कदम उठा रही है ?

स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री (श्री बा० शंकरानन्द) : (क) जी, नहीं ।

(ख) और (ग) ये प्रश्न नहीं उठते ।

(घ) इस संबंध में ऐसी कोई शिकायत प्राप्त नहीं हुई है ।

(ङ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

Death of children due to Diarrhoea

4665. SHRI M. A. BABY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that due to diarrhoea, 80 children die every hour in India ;

(b) what are the steps being taken by Government to control and prevent this killer disease among children ;

(c) whether Government are aware of the fact that many anti diarroheal drugs banned in many countries due to their toxicity and other adverse effects, are being flooded in Indian markets by some companies ; and

(d) what are the steps being taken by Government to prevent this and also to promote and propagate safe Oral Rehydration Therapy (ORT) ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) A survey carried out by the Registrar General of India in rural areas of selected States in 1992 shows that 7.64% of all deaths in the age group 0-14 years were due to gastroenterities and diarrohoea, this includes deaths due to diarrohoea amongst new born.

(b) to (d) The Oral Rehyderation Therapy (ORT) Programme is being implemented and ORS packets are being supplied to prevent deaths due to diarrhoea. Government has initiated action to ban antidiarrhoeal drugs.

Encoragement to Naturopathy Institutes in the country

4666. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) details of Naturopathy Institutes functioning in the country in public and private sectors ;

(b) whether Government have ever reviewed the functioning of such institutes in the country ;

(c) whether the Naturopathy treatment in the country has been found inexpensive and more curable than other ISM system's;